

COUNCIL MINUTES

Regular Meeting October 14, 2013

Mayor Tom Odell called the regular meeting of the Sammamish City Council to order at 6:30 pm.

Councilmembers present:

Mayor Tom Odell
Deputy Mayor Ramiro Valderrama
Councilmember Don Gerend
Councilmember John James
Councilmember Tom Vance
Councilmember Nancy Whitten

Absent:

Councilmember John Curley

MOTION: Councilmember Valderrama moved to excuse Councilmember Curley. Councilmember Whitten seconded. Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

Staff present:

City Manager Ben Yazici
Deputy City Manager Lyman Howard,
Public Works Director Laura Philpot
Assistant City Manager/Community Development Director Kamuron Gurol
Assistant City Manager/Administrative Services Director Mike Sauerwein
City Attorney Mike Kenyon
Administrative Assistant to the City Clerk Lita Hachey.

Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance

Roll was called. Mayor Tom Odell led the pledge.

Approval of Agenda

MOTION: Councilmember Valderrama moved to approve the agenda. Councilmember Gerend seconded. Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

Presentations/Proclamations

Public Comment

Father Kevin Duggen, 1121 228th Ave SE, Pastor Mary Queen of Peace Church, The church is considering hosting Tent City 4 (a homeless encampment) with the help of other area churches. Starting this

Saturday, October 19, 2013, Tent City 4 will be established for a 90-day period, ending on January 18, 2014.

Tereasa Cody, 25625 East Plateau Dr. Plateau Golf & Country Club, requested golf carts be allowed on the public streets surrounding the golf club neighborhood. The golf cart zone would be restricted to streets with a speed limit of 30 mph or less.

Randy Hoefer, 113 Windsor Drive SE, discussed what a golf club zone is. In 2009, legislation passed in Washington to allow the creation of golf cart zones. This allows a local government agency to create a zone around, for example, the Plateau Golf and Country Club. Public Works Director Laura Philpot will present the golf club zone later in the meeting.

Consent Agenda

Payroll for the period ending September 30, 2013 for pay date October 4, 2013 in the amount of \$300,082.21

Approval: Claims for period ending October 14, 2013 in the amount of \$1,641,792.93 for Check No. 35805 through 35930.

Resolution: Authorizing the City Manager To Enter Into An Interlocal Agreement With Association Of Washington Cities Employee Benefit Trust To Participate In Their Self-Insured Health And Welfare Benefit Program

Amendment: Economic Development Plan/Community Attributes

Approval: October 1, 2013 Regular Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Valderrama moved to approve the consent agenda. Councilmember Gerend seconded. Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

Public Hearing

Public Hearing opened at 6:48 pm and will remain open until November 5, 2013

Public Comment

Denise Stiffarm, 925 4th Ave # 2900, Seattle, WA, Lake Washington School District, spoke regarding the impact fees in the Lake Washington School District

Steve Crawford, 565 NW Holly St. Issaquah, WA, Director of Capital Projects, Issaquah School District, discussed the factors that contribute to the changes in the school Impact fees

Assistant City Manager/Community Development Director Kamuron Gurol gave the staff report and gave a PowerPoint presentation (*available on the city's website at www.sammamish.us*).

Ordinance: First Reading Relating To School Impact Fees; Amending The City's Comprehensive Plan To Adopt The Snoqualmie Valley School District No. 410 Capital Facilities Plan; Adopting The Associated School Impact Fee Schedule; And, Establishing An Effective Date.

Ordinance: First Reading Relating To School Impact Fees; Amending The City's Comprehensive Plan To Adopt The Lake Washington School District No. 414 Capital Facilities Plan; Adopting The Associated School Impact Fee Schedule; And, Establishing An Effective Date.

Ordinance: First Reading Relating To School Impact Fees; Amending The City's Comprehensive Plan To Adopt The Issaquah School District No. 411 Capital Facilities Plan; Adopting The Associated School Impact Fee Schedule; And, Establishing An Effective Date.

Council Reports

Councilmember Gerend, spoke regarding the Eastside Transportation Partnership meeting on October 11.

Councilmember Vance, spoke regarding the Regional Transit Committee meeting on Wednesday, October 16. They will be discussing the potential transit cutbacks in service due to funding issues.

Deputy Mayor Valderrama, spoke regarding Tent City 4 and praised the decision to hold it at Mary Queen of Peace. Attended the Eastside Fire and Rescue board meeting last Thursday, October 10. The Board voted to extend the Interlocal Agreement (ILA). All other members of the board were planning to take back to their Commissions and Councils, the 75/25 proposal presented and get back to Sammamish about their decisions. Discussion and a vote was held to approve a subgroup of five members who would discuss, if the 75/25 approved, how a long-term funding model could be done.

Mayor Odell, spoke regarding the success of the Mayor's Month of Concern Hunger Food Drive. There was 18,235 lbs. of food collected and almost \$3,000.00. Public Issues Committee, with Sound Cities Association, discussed the closing of garbage transfer stations and creating new ones. At a meeting on Oct. 9, 2013, King County presented a transfer-plan review document that the Sammamish Council will have to vote on. He also attended the EF & R Funding Model & Board meeting.

City Manager Report

Golf Carts on City Streets

Public Works Director Laura Philpot gave the staff report and gave a PowerPoint presentation (*available on the city's website at www.sammamish.us*).

Ms. Philpot asked for the Council's direction in moving forward with this request.

Councilmember Whitten and Mayor Odell would like more information before proceeding with this issue. There have been concerns expressed about safety issues. A desire for feedback from local schools and the Sammamish Police Chief. Councilmember James stated that golf carts are allowed on the streets in the Sahalee community.

Decision postponed until more discussion about the issues is possible.

MOTION: Deputy Mayor Valderrama moved to amend the agenda to move the Executive Session to the end of the meeting after the Study Session. Councilmember James seconded. Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

Mayor Odell suggested a 5-minute break. Meeting resumed at 7:40 pm.

Study Session

➤ Fire Services

Public Comment

Dave Augenstein, 723 212th Ave SE, Sammamish, WA 98075, Citizen and Firefighter, Comment: He spoke regarding the timeline of this latest report. He feels that the Citizens/First responders are being ignored in this process and there has not been enough opportunity for public input. Taxpayers have paid over \$65,000 for a consultant study. Why are you changing something that is working fine at the risk of something of poor quality?

Mike O'Brien, 519 N 77th St, Seattle, WA, 98103, Firefighter with EF & R, Comment: Requesting a written response to his question prior to vote on Nov. 5th. He wonders why the City is saying that the Fire Dept. the city is proposing will have the same or better quality of service, for the same or less cost than what EF & R is providing today? The report that he has seen won't be offering several services that EF & R is currently offering.

Emily Harig, 416 221st Ave NE, Sammamish, WA 98074, Resident and Volunteer Firefighter at Station 82, Comment: She feels the program has helped her become the person she is today. EF & R has provided many outreach services to her neighborhood, including blood pressure checks, holiday engines, food donations and other support. How will this change?

Robin Earl, 2151 E Beaver Lake Drive SE, Sammamish, WA 98074, Resident & Principal of Creekside Elementary School, Comment: Discussed how successful the community partnership with EF & R has been with the schools. She feels there is a tight bond in the community. EF & R has always been there for school events; from the start of a new school to various school functions. They are part of her school team.

Michelle Frey, 3113 214th Place SE, Sammamish, WA 98075, Volunteer for EF & R, Comment: Requested a written response to her question. She hears the City plans to pay firefighters the lowest possible salary on the pay scale if this fire department is formed. Is that fair? What is the justification? Has the risk gone down?

Ryan O'Cain, 11915 NE 103rd Place, Kirkland, WA, Firefighter, formerly at Station 81 & now at Station 83, Comment: Requested a written response by Nov. 5, 2013. It appears you won't have a dedicated fire prevention division or even an officer. If not, how will plan review inspections, permitting and service testing be accomplished? How much will that cost in addition to what is being proposed?

David Geller, 2156 272nd Way SE, Sammamish, WA 98075, Resident of Trossachs, Comment: He is here to voice his strong supporter of EF & R. He feels we need to keep EF & R. He trained as an EMT and a volunteer at Station 83. Do we want to take the risk with a new Fire Department? A majority of calls are for medical emergencies. If the City forms its own department then not all forty firefighters will be employed from those three stations. He would prefer a group of well-trained professionals coming to his door in the case of an emergency.

Sara Groff, 1855 Trossachs Blvd SE, # 205, Sammamish, WA 98075, Resident, Comment: Requested a written response by Nov. 5, 2013. She does not see in the final study, where there is a full-time training officer on staff should the city break away from Eastside Fire & Rescue. How will firefighters receive the training they need to keep their skills current? How much will that cost in addition to what is being proposed? Why fix something that is not broken? She feels EF & R is a well-established, well-oiled department and she does not want to see that changed with a new department.

Mary Zeigler, 4617 225th Ave SE, Sammamish, WA 98075, Resident, Comment: She has checked with her homeowners insurance and two factors concerned with the rate are Fire Dept. response time and distance from fire station. She is concerned about the changes that will happen and the possibility the Station 83 will be closing. She feels that response time is critical and that EF & R are trained professionals. Ms. Zeigler would like to know what the City's experience is in operating a Fire Department.

Jon Poulin, 14819 4th Place NE, Duvall, WA. 98019, Sammamish Firefighter, Comment: Requested a written response to the following question. As board members of EF & R, your members have approved the budget for the last 12 years, why now are you making an issue of a higher cost?

Colin O' Brien, 27223 NE 146th Place, Duvall, WA 98019, Firefighter at Station 83: Comment: Requests a written response to the following question: Who will do specialized maintenance on fire trucks? Does the City currently have the expertise and exactly what will the cost be to do that sort of maintenance?

Kim Hilliker, 2630 233rd Place NE, Sammamish, WA 98074, Comment: She begs that Sammamish not get rid of this fire station and these providers. She feels that we need these experienced firefighters to remain in Sammamish. What value does the City put on human lives over the dollars saved?

Kent T. Kiernan, 23101 NE 18th Court, Sammamish, WA 98074, Comment was previously voiced.

Joe Lindsay, 710 240th Way SE, Sammamish, WA 98075, EF & R Firefighter, Comment: The City has done five fire services studies since 2005 at a cost of \$100,000 or more. The last one stated that it was more effective to have Sammamish remain with EF & R. What has changed in this last report and what makes the city think it can run a stand-alone fire department cheaper and better than what we get with EF & R?

Chris Tubbs, 22618 NE 15th Place, Sammamish, WA 98074, Resident and Fire Chief with over 35 years' experience, Comment: He cautioned the Council with proceeding with its own fire department and feels there is a lack of transparency with this issue. He respects the right of the Council to make such business decisions. As public servants, the public trust should be paramount. He feels that the City is being naive about the ability to run its own fire service. He requests that the Council delay any decision to sever the contract with EF & R. Public safety is the most important service we receive from local government.

John Bromberg, 22309 NE 31st Street, Sammamish, WA 98074 Comments: Requested a written response to his questions. Spoke against the Council's decision to create its own fire department. He feels the decision for Sammamish to create its own Fire Department is based on financial information on paper only. There is a whole lot more that needs to go into it. Instead, all the Citizens of Sammamish should make the decision.

Jan Bromberg, 22309 NE 31st Street, Sammamish, WA 98074, Cert Program Manager,
Comment: The Community Emergency Response Team program in Sammamish are the main providers of training for citizens. They host 4 training sessions per year and have graduated over 600 CERT's. EF & R has been a big partner in this program. She would like to know why no one in her organization was asked for input.

Jon Wiseman, 7329 410th Ave SE, Snoqualmie, WA, 98065, President of the Firefighter Union,
Comment: Spoke on behalf of the local firefighters that support the Sammamish community. They have been concerned about the rush to push the decision forward to November from December. He does not feel confident in the decision to turn away Eastside Fire and Rescue. He is concerned about the FCS report and that the costs do not add up. The quality of service will decline if the City tries to take over the management. The CERT program and regional partnerships will suffer.

Brad Speigler, 13804 252nd Place, Issaquah, WA, 98027, Citizen, Comment: Requested a written response to his question. He is here to support EF & R. He feels that the proposed budget has issues. He feels we need ongoing training for our EMT's.

Dee Carrel, 20814 NE 26th Place, Sammamish, WA 98074, Citizen, Comment: She is concerned about the loss of the EF & R in Sammamish and here to support the EF & R. She is also worried about home insurance rates going up.

Suzie Rockey, 23253 NE 17th St, Sammamish, WA 98074, Business Owner, Sammamish,
Comment: Requested a written response before the Nov. 5th meeting. How will the intellectual capital about the people, schools and the area, be maintained, if you have a new fire department?

Pete Brummel, 1251 West Valley Pkwy, Chimacum, WA 98325, Captain Eastside Fire & Rescue, Emergency Management Advisory Board, Regional Fire Service Planner, Comment: He found numerous flaws in the new FCS report. The lack of the Fire Battalion Chiefs is important for daily operations and safety issues. Regional assistance is needed to run the Fire Dept. Regional fire services is the way of the future. EF & R has the specialists that are needed.

Wayne Parker, 5017 35th Ave SW, Seattle, WA 98126, Fire Fighter with EF & R, Comment: Request for a written response to his question before Nov. 5th meeting. When calling around to others that operate a three station fire department, none are able to get the costs per station down as far as EF & R, while maintaining the level of quality in services. Why does the city think that they can do what others can't?

Loren Charlston, 445 243rd PI SE, Sammamish, WA 98074, Former Assistant Fire Chief,
Comment: Requested a written response before Nov. 5 meeting. Regional Fire Service is the way of the future. Why is the City choosing this direction? The City is being unrealistic about costs

and not having a Battalion Chief. The entire City staff is going to get busier. How many Sammamish residents have requested a change away from EF & R?

Judi McLaughlin, 427 219th Ave NE, Sammamish, WA 98074, Citizen, Comment: Why would you do this to our community? Why would you take away the people who service this community? This is not the right thing to do, our citizens need our EMT's and fire & rescue. She was told her home insurance rates will go up. She requests that Council make a common sense decision and keep EF & R.

Sarah Cousins Hoopes, 23966 SE 7th Lane, Sammamish, WA 98075, Comments: Based on the comments from the Technical Advisory Committee, a more community-based model is desired by the community. What community organizations or individuals did the FCS or the TAB ask about the decision to leave EF & R?

Mike Mandella, 688 110th Ave NE, Bellevue, WA, 98004, Retired Fire Chief with 30 years of service, Comment: What is the rush? He is here to talk about transparency, cost analysis, due diligence and risk assessment. He would like to know why the Council is not open and honest about this decision. He feels you cannot run a fire department on that few dollars. You do not have the in house expertise dealing with union workers. Potential staffing issues will put the burden on the homeowner and businesses to pay more in taxes.

Richard Waymire, 806 233rd Pl NE, Sammamish, WA 98073, Volunteer Firefighter at Station 82, Comment: He is against the decision to remove EF & R. He did not see any mention in the report of the volunteers in the fire department. Do you have a plan to have volunteers in the department or not?

Sharon Rhinevault, 21472 NE 20th Court, Sammamish, WA 98074, declined to comment as her comment was previous addressed.

Michael King, 2328 233rd Ave NE, Sammamish, WA 98074, Comment: Requested a written response. Will the city still get all the support on major calls from EF & R that they get today if they are no longer a partner? Are EF & R, Redmond or Fall City Fire, obligated to offer any mutual or automatic aid and if not, have they agreed to do so? Will the City automatically allow mutual aid agreements if the city decides to form its own Fire department. He finds the FCS report inadequate and has many concerns. He encourages Council to think twice about this decision.

David Misakian, 1237 227th Terrace SE, Sammamish, WA 98075, Volunteer Program Manager, Comment: Requested a written response by Nov. 5 meeting. His question is about the Council's decision to have a fire department that is more community based. What is the desire of the Council? We currently have a volunteer pool that works with the career staff to provide grief and counseling services to our Chaplin corps, a SSV corps that provides data and tele-communications back-up services, staffing for concerts in the park and school events. What is Council seeking additionally that the volunteer pool and the career staff do not provide?

Adam Merritt, 33801 SE Sorenson St, Snoqualmie, WA 98065, Firefighter with EF & R, Comment: His question to Council is that it is his understanding that the City has no union employees. If you start a Fire Department, the firefighters will quickly organize one. Will that

cost us more in a few years? Will other city workers organize and increase City expenses as well? Do you want the firefighters to organize?

John Fallstrom, 885 7th Ave NW, Issaquah, WA, 98027, 27 years with KC Fire District 10 & with EF & R, Comment: currently the citizens of Sammamish receive numerous, seamless fire services, all as partners with EF & R provide numerous services. How will that work under the new plan for the City? Other considerations are requirements for staff training, mechanic services, facility maintenance, dispatch services and the ability to respond to hazardous situations etc.

Eugene Craig, 20555 NE 27th Pl, Sammamish, WA 98074, Long-time resident of Sammamish, Comment: The Fire people should handle fire and safety and the City people should manage City affairs. He thanked the members of Council; feels they are doing their job and will make the right decision. With change, come improvements.

Frank Dahlquist, 25307 145th Pl SE, Monroe, WA, 98272, EF & R firefighter, Comment: He sees the trend with regional fire services around the area. Regionalization is the way to go. If one of the Cities' mentioned in your study has since gone to a regional fire authority, why would we go to something else?

Eric Jarvi, 20906 NE 19th Place, Sammamish, WA 98074 Comment: Requested a written response. What will our 2014 and 2015 cost projections become in the event Sammamish Fire Dept. and will other city employees need to unionize? What plan does the City have for negotiating union contracts?

Kyle Wyler, 22626 SE 281st street, Maple Valley, WA 98038, Firefighter with EF & R Comment: Requested a written response. Is it true that the city pays far less per thousand assessed property value than any of the other current partners for fire and medical services? If you pay the least and the public is satisfied with this service, why are you leaving?

Rick Reynolds, 33028 SE 44th Street, Sammamish, WA 98074, Lieutenant with EF & R, Comment: He spoke in favor of EF & R as a first rate department. Council needs to consider disaster preparedness in Sammamish, the CERT group and the training they provide. This is just one of the many areas that you could lose if you chose to going somewhere else.

Public Comment ended at 8:44 pm.

Mayor Odell requested a 10 min recess.

City Manager Ben Yazici gave a staff report and gave a PowerPoint presentation (*available on the city's website at www.sammamish.us*)

Peter Moy, with the FCS group, gave an update of the Fire Services Study and gave a PowerPoint presentation (*available on the city's website at www.sammamish.us*). Along with Bob Merritt with MHC Associates

Kathleen Huckabay, with the Technical Advisory Board (TAB), gave an update of the Fire Services Study and gave a PowerPoint presentation (*available on the city's website at www.sammamish.us*). Ms. Huckabay introduced Ron Haworth and Lee Felling fellow TAB members.

Close Study Session

Executive Session – Potential Litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i)

Council retired to Executive Session at 11:20 pm and returned at 11:39 pm. with the following action taken:

Motion: Deputy Mayor Valderrama moved to authorizing a Quiet Title lawsuit regarding certain parcels on SE 14th St. Councilmember Gerend seconded. Motion carried unanimously 6-0.

Lita Hachey, Administrative Assistant
to the City Clerk

Thomas T. Odell, Mayor